(c) whether it is a fact that farmers in the Maha Mumbai SEZ have accused RIL for indulging in fraudulent land transaction where even the farmers are unaware of their land being sold; and

(d) whether any investigation has been conducted to ascertain the factual position in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Land/land usage is a State subject and each State acquires land for various purposes as per their policy. There are no special provisions for acquisition of land for Special Economic Zones (SEZs). The State Governments have been advised that the Board of Approval will not consider any proposal for SEZ in case the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory land acquisition for SEZs after 5th April, 2007. In so far as Maharashtra is concerned, 88 formal approvals have been granted which extend over approximately 11000 hectares. As regards rehabilitation and compensation issues, the Ministry of Rural Development has come out with a revised National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy 2007 *inter-alia*, providing for financial assistance, employment for displaced persons, rehabilitation grants, subsistence allowances, etc., which was notified on 31st October, 2007.

**Machinery to study bonafides of SEZ applicants**

1243. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any machinery to study the bonafides of any applicant who wants a Special Economic Zone for himself;

(b) if so, the details of the research wing or the organization, which makes efforts to judge any applicant for a SEZ.

(c) how many malafide applicants were detected and weeded out by the SEZ Board last year;

(d) whether penal action has been initiated against such malafide applicants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) All proposals for setting up of SEZs are consider by 19 member Inter-ministerial SEZ Board of Approval constituted under SEZ Act, 2005. The proposals are considers on the basis of information provided by the applicant(s) in the prescribed format (Form A). Board of Approval consists of representative from various Ministries/Departments, including those of Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Finance. The respective Members of the Ministries/Departments duly give their inputs during the deliberations of the Board of Approval. Besides, BOA does not consider any proposal unless recommended by the State Government concerned. The SEZ Act, 2005 confers power on the Board of Approval for suspension of approval in case the developer is unable to fully or efficiently discharge the duties and obligations imposed on him by the letter of approval and the circumstances exist which render it necessary for it in public interest so to do.